



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of)
KUROKAWA et al.)
Application Number: 10/765,098) Art Unit 2186
Filed: January 28, 2004)
For: STORAGE SYSTEM WITH)
A DATA SORT FUNCTION)
Attorney Docket No. WILL.0003)

Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each U.S. and foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified, is submitted in connection with the Petition to Make Special Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d) for accelerated examination, which is being submitted concurrently herewith.

CERTIFICATION

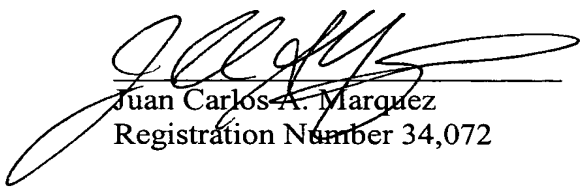
This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted prior to the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, no fee is due or payable at this time.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 08-1480.

Respectfully submitted,

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January 26, 2005

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| Form PTO 1449 | ATTY. DOCKET NUMBER WILL.0003 | SERIAL NUMBER 10/765,098 |
| U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office | APPLICANT Kurokawa et al | |
| Information Disclosure Statement | FILING DATE January 28, 2004 | GROUP 2186 |

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|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------|-------|---------------|-------------|----|
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Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
| <p><i>EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant</i></p> | |

PTO1449